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ABSTRACT

The cultural interaction between Euro-Americans and the original inhabitants of this country constitute one of the most compelling and defining conundrums in U.S. history. This unit explores 19th-century ideology as manifested in public attitudes, justifications for action, and the formation of government policy. The unit is based on primary source documents, such as newspapers, photographs, private correspondence, and artifacts. It presents specific issues and dramatic episodes in U.S. history from which teachers and students can explore the deeper meanings of these landmark events and their wider context in the historical narrative. The unit's premise is that by studying crucial turning points in history the student develops an awareness that choices had to be made by real human beings. The unit includes: "Introduction" (Approach and Rationale, Content and Organization); "Teacher Background Materials" (Unit Overview, Unit Context, Correlation to the National Standards for History, Unit Objectives, Historical Background); "Dramatic Moment"; and "Lessons" (The Role of Education, Euro-American Justifications and Indian Responses, Indian Removal Policy, The Case of the Cherokee, The Shift to Reservation Policy). Lesson plans contain student resources, source documents, handouts, and background materials. (Contains a 16-item bibliography.) (BT)

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